

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 205
By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of William Barrett Graves of Gallatin.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of William Barrett Graves, son of our former colleague and friend, Speaker Pro Tem Jo Ann Graves, and her husband Bill Graves; and

WHEREAS, Barrett was young man of outstanding talent and ability whose all too brief life and boundless potential were cut short by a tragic highway accident; he was a 1996 graduate of Gallatin High School who was active in the school's choral program, was a member of the Gallatin High School Performers, was the basketball homecoming court escort in his Senior year, a member of the All-Mid-State Chorus and vice president of his class; and

WHEREAS, Barrett Graves briefly attended Washington University in St. Louis, where he performed in theater productions; he then worked for the Tennessee Regulatory Agency in Nashville and became active in his mother's political campaigns, working the polls during the November 2004 election; and

WHEREAS, Barrett was a student at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where he was pursuing a philosophy degree with plans to continue his education in law school; he was on his way home April 14, 2005 when he tragically lost his life; and

WHEREAS, Barrett, along with his family, was an active and devout member of the First United Methodist Church of Gallatin; and

WHEREAS, Barrett Graves was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; he will be sorely missed by his parents, Bill and Jo Ann Graves; his brother Daniel Aaron and his sister Whitney Ann; his maternal grandmother Evelyn Ann Waskow; his paternal grandparents, William H. Graves III and Anita S. Graves; as well as members of his extended family and many friends; and

WHEREAS, family friends described Barrett as an outstanding and talented young man who was always pleasant and cordial; those members of the General Assembly who have known the Graves family over the years share their deep grief and sorrow for a life all too brief; and

WHEREAS, Barrett Graves leaves behind an enduring legacy of commitment to family and friends, great talent and abilities never to reach full flower, and the love and affection of all who knew him; he will be remembered for his unique personality, quick wit and compassion for others; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional young man whose life of hope and promise was too soon ended; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of William Barrett Graves, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Barrett Graves.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.